

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

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Volume XXXIX.—No. 57

AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING

MRS. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.
Washington street, Brooklyn.—ELIZABETH, at 3 P. M.
clothes at 11 P. M. Mrs. Bowers.METROPOLITAN THEATRE.
No. 286 Broadway.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at
7:45 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.NIBLO'S GARDEN.
Broadway, between Prince and Houston streets.—
LEATH-STOCKING, at 5 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.ACADEMY OF MUSIC.
Montague street, Brooklyn.—Soprano Italian Opera
Troupe.—LES HUGUENOTS, at 5 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.
Mlle. Torriani, Sign. Campanini and Maurel.WOOD'S MUSEUM.
Broadway, corner Third street.—DUMREY AND SON,
at 2 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. THE MAN WITH THE
RED BEARD, at 5 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.
Twenty-third street and Broadway.—LOVE'S LABOR'S
LOSS, at 5 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Harkins, Miss
Ada O'Neil.GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
Sixth avenue, and Twenty-third street.—HUMPTY
DUMPTY AT SCHOOL, and VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT.
Begin at 7:45 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. G. L.
Fox.GERMANIA THEATRE.
Fourteenth street, and Broadway.—LOUISE BURSEHE,
Begin at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.THEATRE COMIQUE.
No. 514 Broadway.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 3
P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.BOOTH'S THEATRE.
Sixth avenue, and Twenty-third street.—CHESNEY
WORLD, at 7:45 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mme. Fanny
Janauschek.WALLACE'S THEATRE.
Broadway, between Houston and Bleeker streets.—
VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 7:45 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.OLYMPIC THEATRE.
Broadway, between Houston and Bleeker streets.—
VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 7:45 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.BROOKLYN PARK THEATRE.
opposite City Hall, Brooklyn.—WHITE SWAN, at 5 P.
M.; closes at 11 P. M.BOWERY THEATRE.
Bowery.—A STEAMBOAT TRIP TO JERSEY; SUN-
LIGHT THROUGH THE MIST. Begins at 7 P. M.; closes
at 11 P. M.TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE.
No. 201 Bowery.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 5 P.
M.; closes at 11 P. M.BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE.
Twenty-third street, corner of Sixth avenue.—CINDER-
ELLA, IN BLACK; SONGS AND MINSTRELIES, &c., at 5 P.
M.; closes at 10 P. M.BAIN HALL.
Great Jones street and Lafayette place.—THE PILGRIM,
at 5 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M. Matinee at 3 P. M.COLOSSEUM.
Broadway, corner of Third street.—PARIS BY
NIGHT, at 1 P. M.; closes at 5 P. M.; same at 7 P. M.;
closes at 10 P. M.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Thursday, Feb. 26, 1874.

THE NEWS OF YESTERDAY.

To-Day's Contents of the
Herald.A GREAT DISASTER TO THE BRITISH ARMS RE-
PORTED FROM ASHANTEE! A SEVERE
BATTLE AND CONFLICTING ACCOUNTS OF
THE RESULT! KING KOFFEE CALGALI
IN PERSONAL COMMAND! GENERAL
WOLSELEY ADVISED TO RETREAT—
SEVENTH PAGE.M. THIERS RAPIDLY RECEIVED IN THE
FRENCH CORPS LEGISLATIVE! THE SPAN-
ISH STEAMSHIP MURILLO CHANGES HER
NAME—SEVENTH PAGE.COOLIES FROM THE TROCHA ARRIVING IN
HAYANA! SANTA ANNA OFF FOR MEX-
ICO—SEVENTH PAGE.THE RECENT BATTLE IN CUBA THE "SE-
VEREST" OF THE WAR! BASCONES AND
THE SPANISH FORCES ROUTED, WITH
HEAVY LOSSES! 8,000 MEN ENGAGED—
FOURTH PAGE.A YOUNG WOMAN KILLED BY A DRUNKEN
POLICEMAN! JEALOUSY THE CAUSE!
THE MURDERER ARRESTED—EIGHTH PAGE.A MURDERER AND FIVE BURGLARS LIBER-
ATED BY MASKED SCOUNDRELS IN DELA-
WARE! A WOMAN IN THE CASE—SEVENTH
PAGE.OUR SUPERB NATIONAL NAVAL SPECTACLE—
WASHINGTON NEWS—THIRD PAGE.

LEGISLATIVE DOINGS—TENTH PAGE.

THE SCOTTISH CANVASS AND ELECTIONS FOR
MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT!
LOYALTY TO THE CROWN AND FRIEND-
LINESS TO AMERICA—FOURTH PAGE.SUFFERINGS OF AND ABUNDANT RELIEF FOR
THE POOR! SUPERINTENDENT PEAKE ON
THE SOUP KITCHENS—DISTRESS AMONG
THE OPERATIVES IN LYNN, MASS.—FIFTH
PAGE.IMPORTANT MEETING OF THE NAVAL IN-
STITUTE! THE MARINER'S COMPASS—ARMY
MATTERS—EIGHTH PAGE.A BROOKLYN EX-COLLECTOR OF TAXES AR-
RESTED FOR EMBEZZLEMENT! A CRIP-
PLED RAILROAD—EIGHTH PAGE.STIRRING TIMES ON THE ERIE ROAD! TRAVEL
ENTIRELY STOPPED BY THE IRATE
STRIKERS—EIGHTH PAGE.FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS—
NINTH PAGE.WALTER ROCHE HEAVILY MULET! THE MID-
LAND RAILROAD TROUBLES—SANITARY
MATTERS—ELEVENTH PAGE.THE COMMUNISTS' REPLY TO THE EXPOSE OF
THE FRENCH DETECTIVE—THE "WORK-
INGMEN" AND THE TOMPKINS SQUARE
RIOT—FOURTH PAGE.PREPARATIONS FOR THE OBSEQUES OF THE
LATE COMMISSIONER SMITH—FIFTH PAGE.GOVERNOR AMES, OF MISSISSIPPI, in a recent
message to the Legislature, recommends re-
trenchment as a sure means of bettering the
financial condition of the State, and he tells
the legislators that they cannot make their
session too short. This is sound advice, and
we hope the press of the State, without regard
to party, will assist in enforcing it.THE TUNNEL MURDERS in Fourth avenue
continue in spite of the condemnation of
coroners' juries, as is illustrated by the reports
of the HERALD this morning. Punishment
must follow neglect if other warnings fail.The Debate on the Finance-Inflation
of the Currency Moral Re-
pudiation.We regret exceedingly that Mr. Senator
Schurz should have stooped from his high
place as the author of the most eloquent and
effective speech made during the present ses-
sion of Congress to permit a debate with Mr.
Senator Morton upon the foolish question of
his nationality. Mr. Schurz should remem-
ber that a taunt of this kind always answers
itself, and all debate springing from it belongs
to the lowest level of politics, which is saying
a good deal. It is, furthermore, a curious
illustration of the tone of our public life that
a debate could not come to an end upon a
grave financial subject without Senators call-
ing each other "atrocious" and "disingen-
uous." It is this tendency to mud-throwing
and mire-wallowing that makes our Senatorial
debates so valueless and the influence of Con-
gress so limited in its effect upon the country.With this exception we cannot give too
high praise to Mr. Schurz. He shares with
Mr. Senator Sherman the honor of having
made the most effective speech that has as yet
been delivered upon our finances. It is in
the discussion of these questions that the
unique and admirable genius of Mr. Schurz
finds its highest expression. We trust our
Representatives will compare his thoughtful
and philosophical analysis of the whole ques-
tion with the wild Rocky Mountain states-
manship of Mr. Senator Morton, who begins
his argument with the maxims that America
belongs to a solar system of its own; that
it is an irresponsible, independent
universe; that the wisdom and expe-
rience of centuries of civilization
can teach us nothing, and that in dealing with
questions whose importance comes home to
every citizen we must obey the mad and
ignorant clamors of prairie politicians who do
not see beyond their own horizon. The dif-
ference between Mr. Schurz and Mr. Morton
is the difference between a statesman and a
demagogue. It is mournful that a man of Mr.
Morton's vigorous and rude gifts, and of more
than common power, should identify himself
with a measure that can only bring misfortune
to the country.We may lay it down as a safe rule that what-
ever looks to inflation of the currency leads
to a policy which will bring disaster to the
country. This whole question of finance is
too delicate to be determined by Rocky
Mountain statesmen, whose main function is
to abuse England at barbecues or accept and
preach whatever new fancy happens to be in
the air. The laws of finance represent the
experience and wisdom of centuries, the
growth of society, the rise of commerce and
trade, the uses of banking, exchange and
money. Upon their careful observance rests
the health of the body politic, just as the body
in which we live is controlled by the observance
of the laws of health. It may be laid down
as an inexorable law that when parliaments
or mass meetings or representative bodies
devote themselves to the amendment or dis-
cussion of these financial laws, the result will
be mischief—chaos, perhaps. When our Con-
gress clamors for inflation, to please the West
or the South, or any section, it makes precisely
the same mistake that was made by the slave-
holders when they ruled the country in the
interest of slavery, or by the ironmasters of
Pennsylvania, who demanded that iron shall
have protection, no matter what interests are
paralyzed. If this Union has any value as a
political symbol it is that there shall be no
legislation for any one section at the expense
of other sections; for the result in the
end must be a sad one. The sections are
bound together by ties that cannot be torn
without misery. Inflation in the West means
another money panic in New York. A money
panic in New York means bankruptcy, mis-
fortune, ruin in the West. The way for the
body to gather strength is not to drink
brandy, for in the end we do not gain nour-
ishing activity and power, but delirium tre-
mens. When we propose to relieve the West
by cheap money we simply propose to recruit
a system recovering from dissipation with
strong drink, or to extinguish a fire with
petroleum.The real trouble with the country is the
financial dissipation of the war. We still feel
the effects of that mad time. All our cur-
rency notions, our greenback fancies, our five-
twenties, seven-thirties and ten-forties, our
schemes to put down gold and raise artificial
tation, our tariff laws, as incomprehensible
as the Talmud, were so many forms of finan-
cial dissipation. If we have fever and exhaus-
tion what else can we expect, and what must
we do to remedy the evil? The Rocky Moun-
tain statesmen say, We are suffering from
inflation; let us cure ourselves by still
further inflation. The truth is there is no
real prosperity in paper circulation.
When we are told to look at
Austria, Italy and the other nations who
"prosper" with paper money we answer that
there is nothing in the prosperity of Austria
or Italy to excite the emulation of the United
States; that whatever prosperity those coun-
tries may claim is in spite of the paper cir-
culation, which is regarded as an evil and to the
abolition of which the best minds of these
nations are laboring. We cannot pay by
promises to pay. We do not discharge the
debt, but aggravate and postpone it. An ir-
redeemable currency is not an advantage to
the people, but to the speculator in money.
If people have no money how can they buy
money, and how can they obtain it without
buying it? So far from any increase of currency
being an advantage to the people, they
would be the first to suffer. The majority of
the people deal in fixed values and live on
fixed incomes. Now, let the currency be in-
creased, and these values and incomes are at
once affected. Already our credit abroad is
tainted by these constantly reviving propo-
sitions to repudiate the debt, to pay interest in
foreign, not gold, and to increase the currency.
Foreign capitalists do not know how to regard
the United States. Our financial policy has
been like a series of shifting quicksands, and
they steer from it as mariners steer from those
treacherous, uncertain coasts on which so many
argosies have been wrecked. We have a
poisoned credit. We cannot sell a loan with-
out binding ourselves to pay it in gold. We
pay a larger interest than any nation in the
world, all things considered. And, although
in the administration of the Treasury we pay
our interest and principal with promptness,
still we are an uncertain country; and we are
constantly mistrusted, because there is not a
moment when we are not in danger of someRocky Mountain statesman committing Con-
gress to a scheme as wild as that of Thaddeus
Stevens during the war, when he proposed
that a law should be passed regulating the
price of gold.Mr. Senator Morton, among other extraor-
dinary avowals, says that we have been
prosperous during our period of inflation, and
that this prosperity would increase if Mr.
Richardson would only set a few new presses
to work in the Treasury building. He warns
us to keep away from the contamination of the
old nations of Europe—from an example like
France, we suppose, which carried its credit
unseathed through the terrible war, or, it may
be, of England, who staggered debt-burdened
from Waterloo to gain strength from
wisdom and so adjust her burdens that
she is now the richest country in the
world, practically lending money to the world.
For our own part it is no derogation of patri-
otism to say that we gather more wisdom from
France and England in finance than from Mr.
Morton and the whole tribe of Rocky Moun-
tain statesmen. The measure to keep bank
reserves from New York—to compel them to
remain in the West—is a type of the whole
discussion. The bank reserves come to New
York just as railways and ships come here—
because it is the metropolis of the American
people; because money, industry, trade
centre here; because nature and enterprise
have made it the head and heart of the
Continent. Mr. Morton might as well
try to prevent the wild geese from flying
north when the warm weather approaches as
to prohibit the bank reserves from coming to
our money market. So far from his mountain
of freshly printed currency making the West
easier in business and industry, and more in-
dependent of New York, we shall only have
temptations to new speculations in Wall street,
new conspiracies and combinations against
the Treasury, new "Black Fridays" and new
panics like those which came with the suspen-
sion of Jay Cooke, who built his house upon
the sandy foundation that "a national debt
was a national blessing;" that inflation was
prosperity and printed bank bills money, only
to see it fall when the storm came.An inflation of the currency would be moral
repudiation. It would be the beginning of
disasters more terrible than any that have as
yet fallen upon the country. The way to do
well is not to do ill; and no expedient which
adds to the debt of a nation so largely in debt
as ourselves will ever bring happiness to the
country or anything but shame and dishonor
to the men who support it in obedience to an
ignorant and unmeasuring public senti-
ment.Scottish Politics and the Late General
Election.We print this morning a letter from our
correspondent in Edinburgh, Scotland—a let-
ter which gives a fuller and clearer view than
anything yet printed on this side of the
Atlantic of the present political condition of
the land of Robert Bruce and Robert Burns.
The sudden dissolution of Parliament, the
general election which followed and the con-
test for place and power, not yet ended, be-
tween the two great political parties, have for
the present invested British politics with more
than ordinary importance. All are anxious to
know the reason of Mr. Gladstone's
fall, as well as the secret of Mr.
Disraeli's success; and the immediate
future of British politics constitutes a
problem which many are trying to solve, but
with regard to which different minds are
arriving at very different conclusions. It is
our anxious desire to place our readers in a
position in which they will be able to judge
for themselves. Our letter of this morning
will thus be interesting to all who take an in-
terest in British politics. It will be especially
interesting to our Scottish fellow citizens, who
in this land of their adoption never cease to
look back with a lingering love to the land of
their forefathers. Our correspondent inter-
viewed three representative men—Mr. Bos,
the President of the Trades Council; Mr.
Ferguson, a home rule man—who, of course, is
an Irishman—and a conservative, whose name
is not given. It will be seen that each of the
three men is an extremist. Their views are
very different; but taken together they present
Scottish political life in an aspect which is at
once novel and instructive. We commend
the letter to the attention of all our readers.

The Jail Delivery in Delaware.

The escape of the convicts from the Dela-
ware State Prison yesterday morning is
another illustration of the ease with which
men held for crime may break jail by the aid
of outside help under the present prison
system. So carelessly guarded was this prison
that men could scale the walls and break off
the bars of a cell without attracting any atten-
tion further than to induce a keeper incauti-
ously to open a gate in inquiring into the
noises he heard. The ease with which he was
captured and gagged shows that he was utterly
unconscious of danger. At that time two
prisoners had already escaped from their
cells, and, with the jailer a captive, the res-
cue of the others was easy. The most
astonishing part of the story is that a
tug took the rescuers to Newcastle, and,
after waiting for the jail delivery, carried the
whole party away. An affair of this kind
might take place at Sing Sing, but we thought
it impossible that any such occurrence should
happen in Delaware, especially as we were
assured some years ago that Delaware had an
eye big enough for the whole country. The
escape of Sharkey from the Tombs was consid-
ered an exceedingly well planned affair; but
the skill and confidence of this jail delivery in
Delaware leave scarcely a shadow of glory for
Sharkey's rescuers. Next we shall probably
have a fleet of tugboats going up the Hudson
in open day and inviting the palatial residents
at Sing Sing to an excursion on the river and
a chase in the woods.TAX OFFICE FRAUDS IN BROOKLYN.—Mr.
Isaac Badaeu, who was for six years Collector
of Taxes in Brooklyn, and who is reported to
be worth nearly half a million of dollars, was
arrested yesterday on a charge of embezzle-
ment. The method by which the alleged
frauds were committed was simply by retain-
ing the default and interest on unpaid taxes.
It is said that the amount of the alleged em-
bezzlement aggregates twenty-four thousand
dollars, and Mr. Badaeu's bail was fixed at
thirty thousand dollars. These crimes have
become so common that they scarcely excite
remark, and the only way to stop them is to
punish with severity the men who are found
to be guilty of offences such as that with which
this man is charged.

Mr. Bergh and His Private Police.

It is a great pity that a gentleman so am-
able, patient, polite and humane as Mr. Bergh
should ever lose his temper, for it does not
become him to be in a rage; and to storm and
vituperate, and give way to an apparently nat-
ural but usually well restrained disposi-
tion to be abusive and intolerant is to im-
peril public faith in his superiority, and to
give the censorious a fair opportunity to
say that the man who would restrain him-
self should at least be able to restrain him-
self. If we could ever bring ourselves to re-
gret the utterance of an important truth it
would certainly be from finding that we had
touched Mr. Bergh too sharply (perhaps, as the
subject is horsey, we may be permitted to say,
had touched him on the "raw") by our sug-
gestion that his persecution of the public in
behalf of the rights of animals would prob-
ably excite a reaction and be the means of for-
feiting what had already been gained for the
legitimate objects of his society.But, alas! our respect for the truth is
greater even than our regard for Mr. Bergh;
and, much as it distresses us to see him vince,
we are compelled to say again that his success-
ful demand at Albany for greater power is mis-
chievous and unwise, and is a great step
toward that extreme assertion of a fanatical
idea which universally provokes general
revolt. Our special objection to the new
and hastily made law is that it organ-
izes for this city an entirely new and
independent system of police, which is to
operate side by side with the ordinary public
police, but is supposed to direct its attention
solely to those dreadful examples of their kind
who have not such morbidly tender hearts as
the President of the Society for the Prevention
of Cruelty to Animals. Hitherto we believe
Mr. Bergh's subordinates have only had
authority to make arrests, &c., when author-
ized as deputies by the Sheriff, and to the
appointment of such deputies there could be
no objection, because we know, under the
law, who the Sheriff is, and if there is an
abuse of power by any of his subordinates
we can locate the responsibility. It is
the same with the public police. It is
in the hands of the people who elect the
men with whom the appointing power begins.
There is a definite responsibility to the public.
But now public authority has been given to a
private police—not from any need in the
public interest—simply because Mr. Bergh
wanted it, and because he would have lost his
temper and scolded dreadfully if he had not
obtained it. By the proposed law any one
whom Mr. Bergh designates becomes a police-
man, so far as relates to his authority to make
arrests, enter houses, &c.; but he is not a
policeman otherwise, because no one is respon-
sible for him but Mr. Bergh.If it is a good thing for a police to be organ-
ized here under the entire control of Mr.
Bergh and to act at his discretion in the ex-
travagant pursuit of his "particular vanity"
we do not see any good reason why a great
many other amiable and humane gentlemen
with somewhat extravagant notions might not
also move to have authority to organize a
private police to give effect to their opinions.
It would simplify life greatly, for whoever
could pay the larger number of policemen
would carry the day in every argu-
ment. And Mr. Bergh's police and
his new law tend to simplification
in the same way. His law gives him author-
ity to go into any house, if he only imagines
somebody is perpetrating "any cruelty on any
animal"—say trying a physiological experi-
ment on a rat—and his police give him the
power to carry the physiologist off and collect
a fine to support the society that does these
wonders for the protection of animals. Our
opinion is that this law will before
long defeat itself, and we are not sure
that it will not defeat also the more mod-
erate acts on the same subject now in force.
Everybody sympathizes with the legitimate
protection of dumb animals; everybody grows
impatient when the subject becomes a nuisance,
as it does when pushed beyond its
legitimate sphere. Mr. Bergh, in defence of
the horse against his too often brutal driver,
will always have the public consent with him;
Mr. Bergh prosecuting restaurant keepers for
putting turtles on their backs simply shows
his wit to be on the wrong side of the "thin
partition;" but Mr. Bergh, with a private po-
lice at his heels, breaking into people's
houses to put down vivisection or other pur-
suits that he dislikes, threatens to offend pub-
lic patience.Extravagant zeal in any propaganda uni-
versally defeats its presumed purpose.
Buckle has cogently shown this in his view of
religious persecutions; Addison gracefully
discusses it in the Spectator as a law of hu-
man action, and our philanthropist of one
idea, who would turn the world inside out to
cure the toothache in a cat, is furnishing a
familiar illustration of the principle.THE MURDER OF A YOUNG GIRL by a police-
man yesterday is not to be considered in the
same category as the police murder of a few
days before. The latter crime was without a
parallel in the history of homicide, while in the
present case there was the jealousy from which
even policemen are not exempt. In its details,
however, it was a most brutal murder, and
cannot fail to bring discredit upon the police
force of the metropolis, organized apparently
so as to include many of the worst men in the
city. The readiness with which these men
are encouraged to use the pistol cannot fail to
have fruits like the crime of yesterday. Two
inquests on the same day over the victims of
police ruffianism will be a sorry commentary
on the morals of our municipal "preservers"
of the peace.SIXTEEN SELF-SACRIFICING CONGRESSMEN
were boiling over the legislation at the capital
last night, while the remaining two hundred
and seventy-six were hugging their cozy fire-
sides. All honor to the noble sixteen! And
let us remember that what was a travesty upon
legislation was, at the same time, a severe
condemnation of the greater number who so
failed in their duty.THE DEBT OF NORTH CAROLINA.—There is a
rumor that Governor Caldwell, of North Car-
olina, will call a special session of the Legisla-
ture to consider the State debt. The manner
in which ignorant legislators and dishonest
politicians piled up the debt of the State is a
lesson which no people wishing to be free can
easily forget; but to provide against some of
the evil effects of this indebtedness is a neces-
sity for the future prosperity of the State.The Sounding Brass of Bogus Char-
ities.All that we have recently said on the sub-
ject of speculators in benevolence will have
its full effect if it deepens public interest in
the undertaking commended to the people of
the city by Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, Rev.
Father McGlynn, Judge Daly, Dr. Hall, Pro-
fessor Joy and all the other gentlemen active
in the organization of the Bureau of Charities.
This body proposes to perform in the scheme
of public benevolence the functions of a cen-
tral committee, which, uniting at one point
the knowledge of the combined efforts of all
the charity organizations of the city, will ren-
der possible an intelligent application of pub-
lic aid, and will make it very difficult for im-
postors, either as mendicants or as pre-
tended distributors of charity, to divert
from the proper channel what is intended for
the poor. In the report of preliminary
operations read at the meeting of this body on
Monday night Mr. Roosevelt touched point-
edly on the fraudulent gatherers of charity
who make this first of the Christian virtues a
cover for their peculations. He said:—"Some
societies have been brought to our notice un-
worthy of support, conducted for the purpose
of putting money in the pockets of those who
asked for it in the name of charity. These it
will be our duty to expose." Judge Daly
said:—"The great difficulty is that the public
know so little of the administration of institu-
tions which attempted to be the people's
almshouses." The Hon. Thomas W. Conway
mentioned the case of an agent of one of the
charitable institutions of this city who was a
swindler of the worst kind, and he hoped
that such men, "instead of being paid large
salaries might soon be sent to Sing Sing." Rev.
Mr. Hall thought that what was given in
charity in this city would amply relieve all
the poor, "provided it reached the right
hands and the provisions reached the right
mouths," and he believed that "nothing
chilled the heart of charity so much as the
fact that there were well-known societies here
actually trading on public benevolence." All
these expressions indicate that our people are
moving in the right direction. Great frauds
exist in our charities. There are abuses of
professional mendicancy that must be kept down,
but these are the greatest outcry
about the men who make the greatest outcry
about the men who make the greatest outcry
for charity, and we believe our efforts to fix
public attention on their transactions will be
useful to the community.The New United States Naval In-
stitute.The establishment during the present win-
ter of a "Naval Institute," for the purpose of
advancing scientific and professional knowl-
edge in the navy, is a step in the right
direction that cannot fail to exert a most salutary
influence upon all departments of the service.
By the constitution, as lately adopted, the in-
stitute is organized with the Secretary of the
Navy as its patron *ex officio*, the Admiral of
the Navy its President *ex officio*, and the
commanding officer of the station where it
may hold its regular meetings its Vice Presi-
dent *ex officio*. A "Council of Regents" is
also constituted, with advisory powers, consist-
ing of the Vice Admiral, commandants of all
shore stations, chiefs of bureaus and the
Commanding General of the Marine Corps; while
the actual government is vested in the hands
of an "Executive Council" of five officers, to
be chosen annually by ballot. All officers of the
navy, the Marine Corps and the academic staff
of the Naval Academy are eligible to member-
ship without ballot, by payment of an annual
assessment of five dollars, and "army officers,
eminent men of learning in civil life and dis-
tinguished inventors of articles connected
with the naval and military professions," may
be elected associates.The society, which is known as the "United
States Naval Institute," will hold regular
monthly meetings at such place as may be
most convenient, although it is presumed that
its meetings will usually be held at the Naval
Academy, as being the most easily accessible
to the greatest number of its members. At
these meetings papers upon subjects of pro-
fessional interest will be read and discussed,
and afterward printed for distribution among
the members. Although as yet in its infancy
several papers of the greatest interest and
value have already been read before the
society, and others have been promised by
some of the most distinguished officers of the
service. Among the papers that have been
read thus far are:—"The Battle of Lepanto,"
by Commodore F. A. Parker, author of our
present system of naval tactics and now Chief
of Staff to the North Atlantic fleet; "Manning
the Navy," by Captain S. B. Luce; "The
Cruise of the Tigress," by Lieutenant Com-
mander H. C. White, Executive Officer of the
Tigress while on her expedition for the relief
of the Polar survivors; "Compound En-
gines," by Chief Engineer Baker, Head of De-
partment of Steam Engineering at the Naval
Academy, and, at the last meeting, a paper
upon "Ship's Compasses," &c., by Professor
B. F. Green, United States Navy, Superin-
tendent of Compasses for the United States
Navy, an abstract of which appears elsewhere.The distribution of such matter as these
papers contain among our officers must cer-
tainly be of the greatest benefit to them—
directly by increasing their knowledge, and
indirectly by stimulating professional pride
and fostering scientific and literary tastes. It
is to be hoped that every officer in the service
will lend his influence to promote the success
of this society by enrolling himself at once as
a member. The following officers constitute
the Executive Committee for the current
year:—Commodore C. R. P. Rodgers, chair-
man; Commodore F. A. Parker, Commander
K. R. Breeze, Chief Engineer C. H. Baker,
Medical Inspector A. C. Gorgas. At regular
meetings the chair will be occupied by the
President, Vice President or one of the Exec-
utive Committee, who will invite to the pre-
siding during the reading of papers some one of the
members present, the selection being made
with reference to the nature of the paper to be
read.THE NEXT PENNSYLVANIA ELECTION.—Already
the first general election in Pennsylvania un-
der the new constitution, which does not take
place till November next, is beginning to at-
tract the attention of the press, and candidates
are named in abundance. The officers to be
chosen are a Lieutenant Governor, a Secretary
of Internal Affairs, who is to take the place of
the present Surveyor General, and two Judges
of the Supreme Court, who are to serve fortwenty-one years. Though two Supreme
Judges are to be elected no voter can vote for
more than one; consequently it is likely each
party will name only one candidate. The
other offices will be hotly contested, for it is
understood that the democracy will make a
last stand in the Keystone State with the hope
of retrieving its fallen fortunes.

The Police and the Communists.

By a report published in the HERALD yester-
day it appears that some dangerous French-
men have actually gathered themselves to-
gether in a room somewhere in this city and
there gone to the length of hurrahing for
"the Commune or death." Exactly why they
should thus couple these sinister facts is not
obvious. It may be that they wish to express
a philosophical opinion that one is as good
as the other, in which case we can scarcely
believe they have a great admiration for the
Commune. But if they mean to say that
they shall require society to kill them unless
it is willing to indulge them in their quaint
fancy for such political rubbish as the Com-
mune, why, then, indeed, they are dreadfully
desperate fellows—in their private room.
Perhaps it would scarcely be considerate to
call the operations of the police in regard to
the Communists the mere discovery of a
mare's nest, because it is proper enough for
the functionaries charged with preserving the
public peace to keep their eyes upon all per-
sons or organizations that they have any
reason to suppose are animated by mischievous
intentions; but there must be at Police Head-
quarters a want of capacity to judge of the
relative importance of things if the report of
their detective did not convince the Commis-
sioners that there was nothing to be feared
from these frothy and ranting Frenchmen.
Cowper once exclaimed, to the justice of his
country—What! hang a man for going mad?
Then farewell British freedom!And in a similar vein it may be said now
that if it is a crime to talk nonsense in this
city the authorities must prepare a great deal
of rope, and that wonderfully "literate" crea-
ture from whose face Doré drew his pictures for
Don Quixote must be on his guard. Unless
we have all been greatly mistaken for many
years, our laws permit persons to "intend"
pretty much what they choose, and even the
indescribable wickedness of proposing to
throw the venerable Mr. Havemeyer "by the
windows," though it may make people catch
their breath suddenly at the thought of what
the city has escaped—even this the lawyers
would shake their heads at, especially the
very old lawyers, whose heads rattle when
they shake them. Our police authorities
must have but little faith in the stability of
our social fabric if they believe it has anything
to apprehend from the attitudinizing of thirty
or forty wretched French outlaws, who are
here merely because they were too cowardly to
fight it out in Paris, and came three thousand
miles out of the way to avoid the death they
prate about.

Defeat of the English in Africa.

The reported defeat of the British forces in
Ashantee will be a surprise to many readers
who believed the expedition to the Gold Coast
of Africa had already proved successful. In-
deed, it is not impossible—if the news of the
check received by Sir Garnet Wolseley be
true and the victorious Ashantes are coming
up in still stronger force—that the expedi-
tionary army may be driven back to the
coast. The reported action took
place at Acromboo, within a few miles
of Co